

REMARKS

This is in response to the Notice of Allowance mailed on August 10, 2004. Claims 2-7, 10-22, and 24-33 were pending in the application and indicated allowable. With this amendment, Applicants request that claims 36-38 be added.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.312 to replace the subject matter of claims directed to a non-elected species. Applicants submit that the claims are based on allowable and generic base claims and thus entry of this amendment is proper.

Claims 36, 37, and 38 correspond identically with canceled claims 8, 9 and 23, respectively. Claims 8, 9 and 23 were canceled in response to a restriction requirement mailed on January 14, 2003. That restriction requirement stated that two species were identified in the application. Applicants elected to prosecute Species I and canceled claims 8, 9, and 23 as being directed to Species II. See "Response to Election/Restriction Requirement" mailed April 9, 2003.

Applicants respectfully submit that the non-elected claims depend from generic and allowable claims and thus respectfully request entry of this amendment. Specifically, claims 36 and 37 (corresponding with non-elected claims 8 and 9) depend from allowable claim 7, which ultimately depends from allowable generic independent claim 2. The subject matter of claim 2 covers both Species I and Species II, and thus entry of new claims 36 and 37 is proper. Also, claim 38 (corresponding with non-elected claim 23) depends from allowable claim 22, which ultimately depends from allowable generic independent claim 15. The subject matter of claim 15 covers both Species I and Species II, and thus entry of new claim 38 is proper.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry and allowance of claims 36-38.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By:

  
Joseph R. Kelly, Reg. No. 34,847  
Suite 1600 - International Centre  
900 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319  
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 334-3312

JRK:RH:slg